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February 9, 1999

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FEB - 9 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARYRe: Ex Parte in CC Docket Nos. 98-121 and 96-98

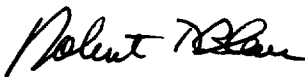
Dear Ms. Salas:

This is to inform you that representatives of BellSouth Corporation and Sprint Corporation met yesterday with Chairman William Kennard and his Chief of Staff, Kathy Brown. Duane Ackerman, Sid Boren, Bill Stacy and I represented BellSouth. Kevin Brauer, Robert Thompson and Rich Morris represented Sprint.

The purpose of the meeting was to review a side-by-side presentation of BellSouth's OSS system with BellSouth's internal systems used to market BellSouth services to residential and small business customers to show BellSouth's compliance with Section 271(c)(2)(B)(ii). During the meeting both BellSouth and Sprint also discussed the merits of establishing a clearinghouse, as described in the attached Sprint presentation.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(a)(1) of the Commission's rules, we are filing two copies of this notice and Sprint's written ex parte presentation for each docket. Please associate this notification with the record of CC Docket Nos. 98-121 and 96-98.

Sincerely,



Robert T. Blau

Attachment

cc: Chairman William Kennard
Kathy Brown

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

BellSouth Telecommunications
OSS Demonstration
FCC
February 8, 1999

Operating Support Systems “OSS”

- What are they?
 - Computer support systems and the information contained in these systems used for certain functions in BellSouth's telecommunication's business.
- What do the Telecommunications Act and the FCC's orders require?
 - Integratable access to support system functions for:
 - pre-ordering, ordering, provisioning, maintenance and repair, and billing for network elements and resale services
 - Access to the information these systems contain

Marketing & Sales Support Systems

Pre-Ordering & Ordering Functions

Pre-Ordering System

CRIS

Customer Records

RSAG

Address Validation

ATLAS

Telephone Numbers

PSIMS / COFFI

Features & Services

DSAP

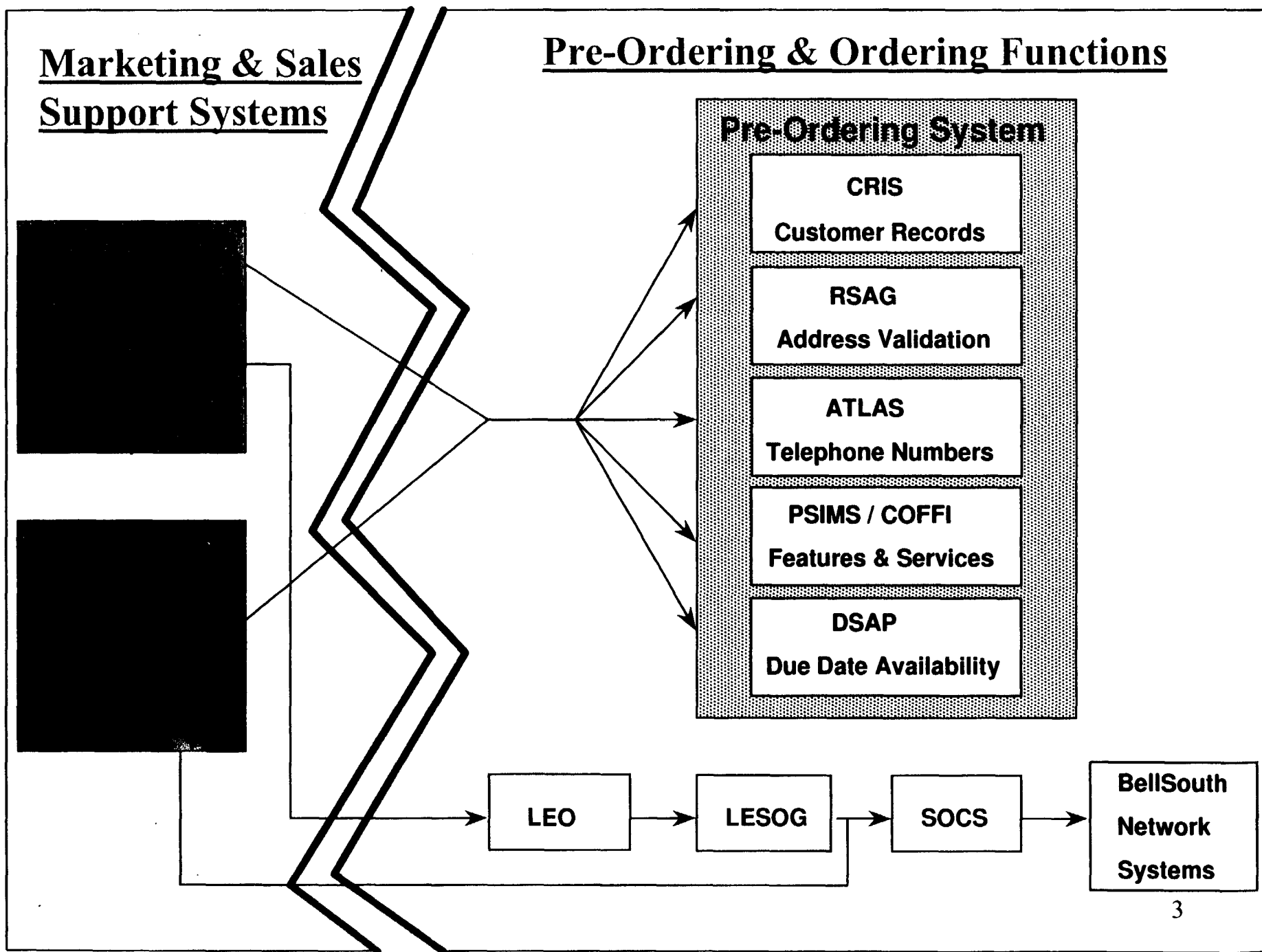
Due Date Availability

LEO

LESOG

SOCS

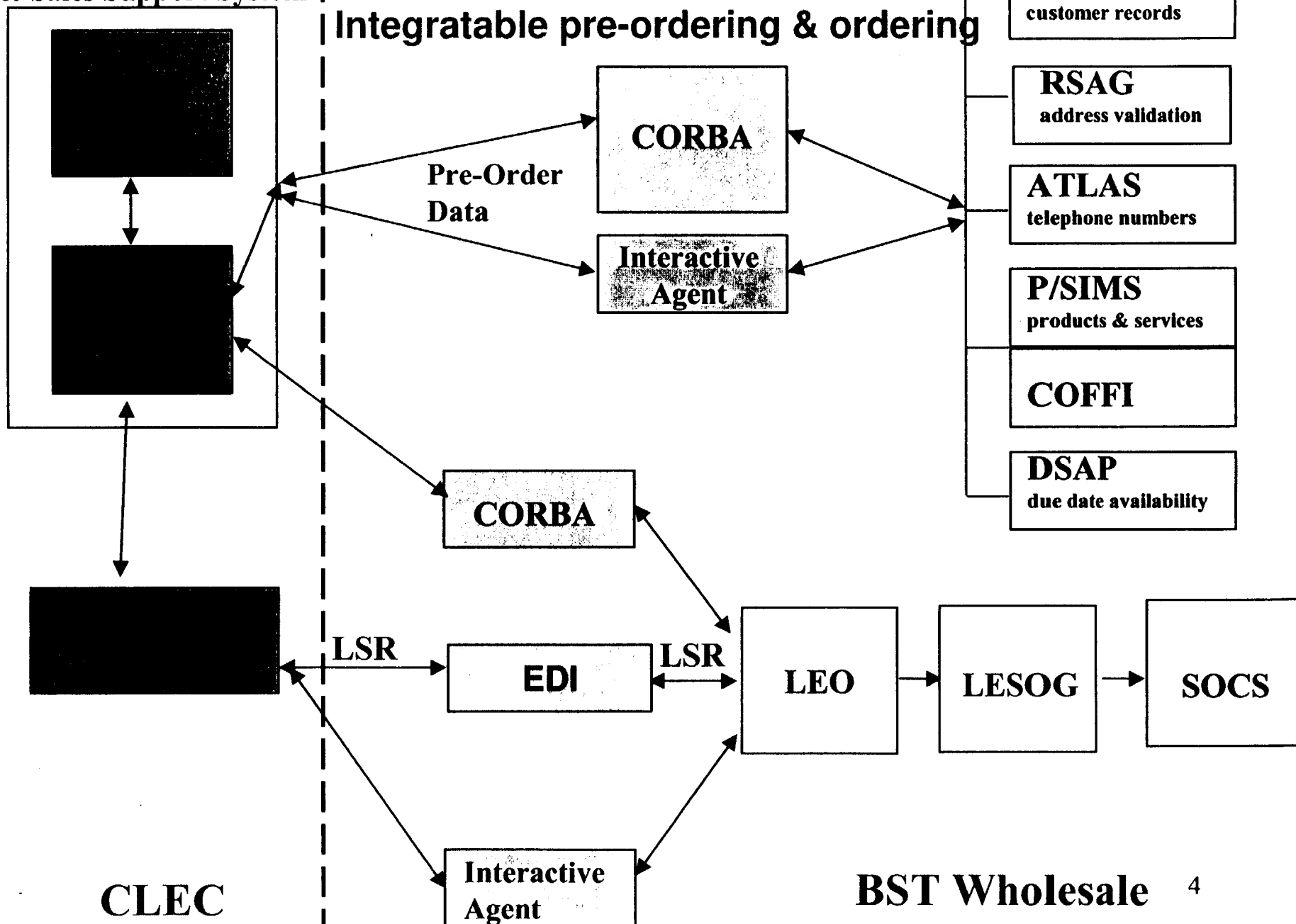
**BellSouth
Network
Systems**



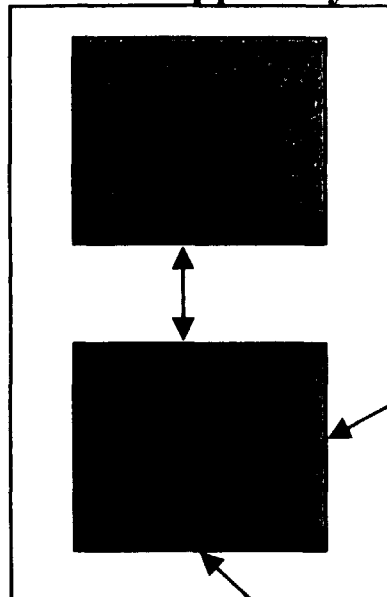
**CLEC Marketing
& Sales Support System**

CLEC OSS Interfaces

Integratable pre-ordering & ordering

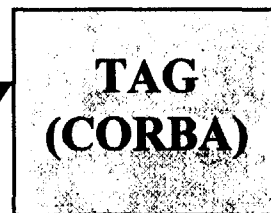


**CLEC Marketing
& Sales Support System**

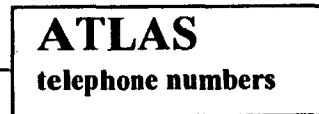


CLEC OSS Interfaces

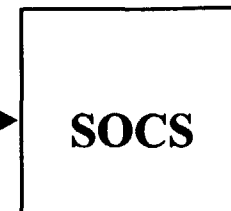
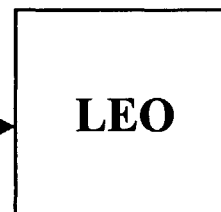
Integratable pre-ordering & ordering



**Pre-Order
Data**



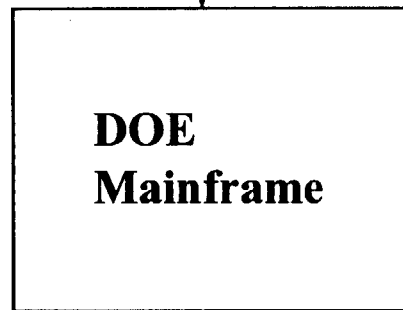
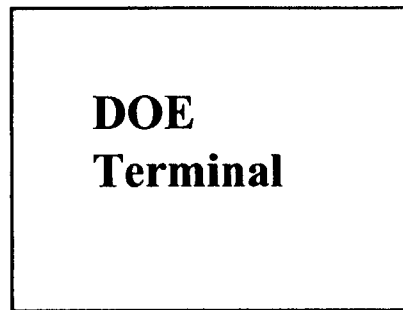
LSR



CLEC

BST Wholesale 5

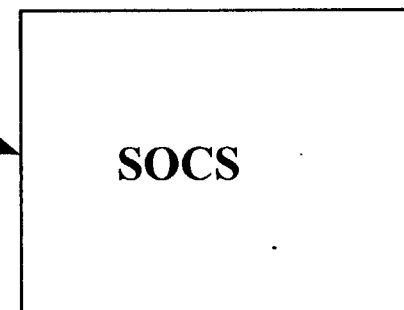
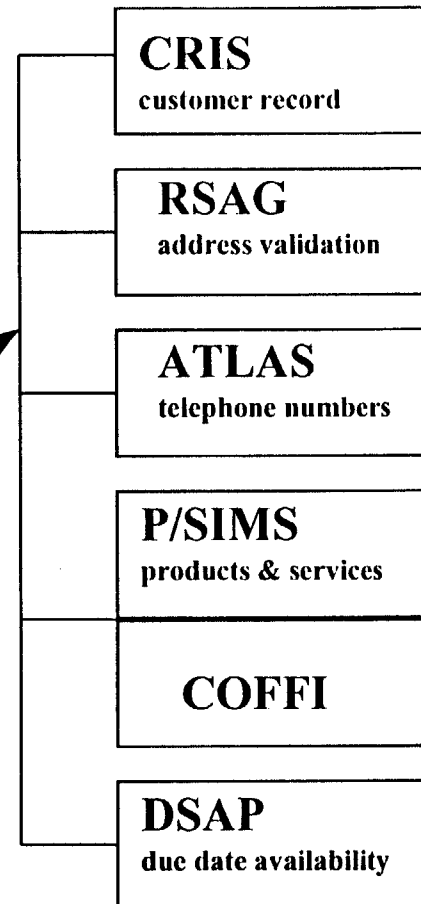
DOE (Used in FL, GA, NC, SC)



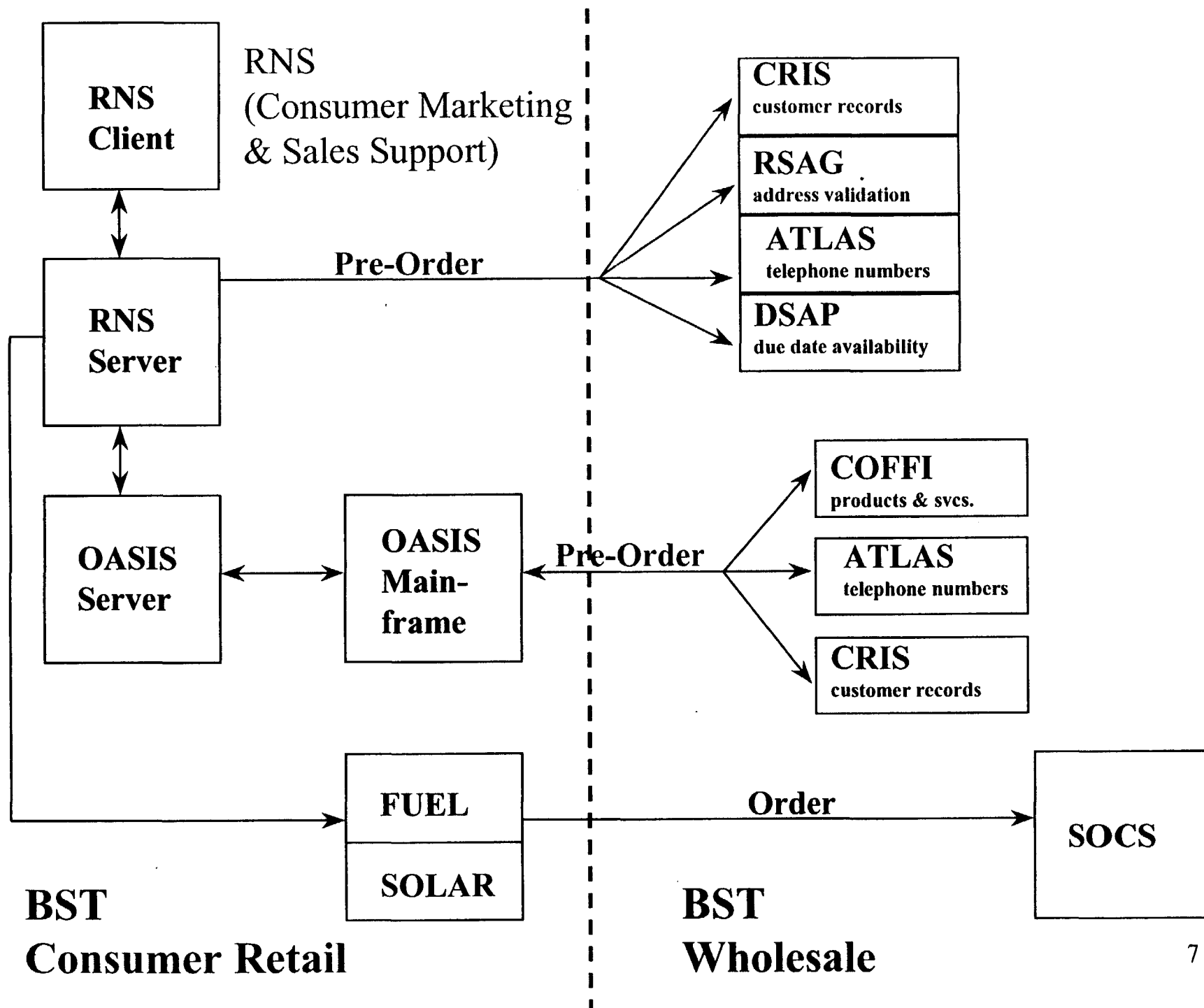
**BST
Business Retail**

*Pre-Ordering
Data*

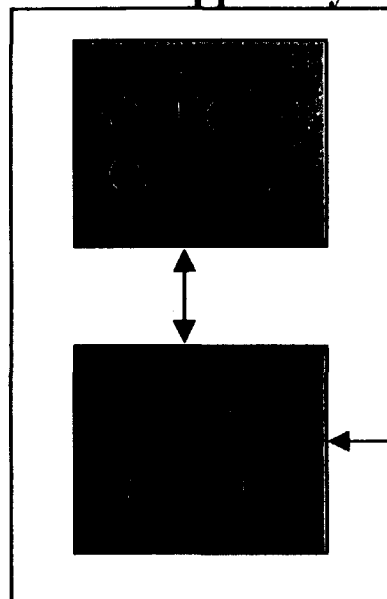
Order



**BST
Wholesale**



**CLEC Marketing
& Sales Support System**



CLEARINGHOUSE

Pre-Order
Data

TAG

BellSouth

Order Data

TAG

LSR

LEO

LESOG

SOCS

CRIS

customer records

RSAG

address validation

ATLAS

telephone numbers

P/SIMS

products & services

COFFI

DSAP

due date availability

ExchangeLink

ILEC B

ILEC C

CLEC

Wholesale Suppliers

The Case for a Telecom Industry OSS Clearinghouse - A Sprint Perspective

Kevin E. Brauer - President National Integrated Service

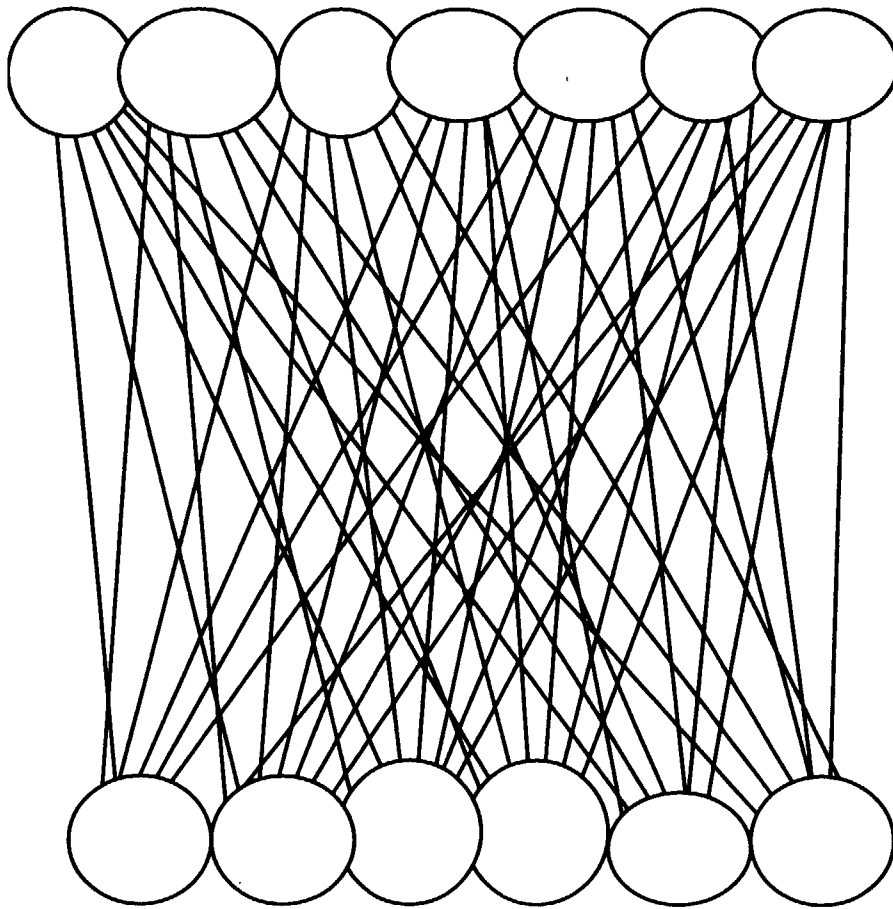
The Industry needs a long term solution to foster competition

The Costs to build and maintain OSS is excessive for both CLECs and ILECs

- Both must maintain relationships, support and coordinate software enhancements with multiple Trading Partners
- Both are forced to support multiple electronic versions and manual interfaces for Trading Partners of various sophistication levels

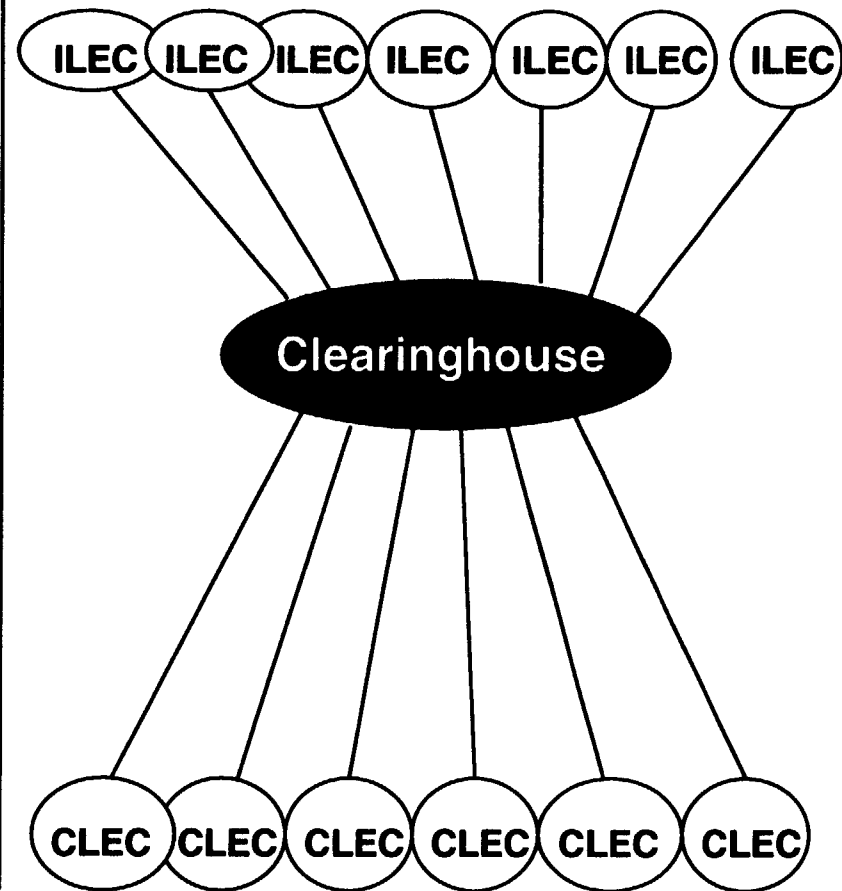
What we HAVE

Current Environment



What we NEED

Clearinghouse



Benefits to the Industry

- Providing a single approach for accessing all trading partners
- Convergence of new products and services to the consumer using a bundling retailer and multiple wholesalers (PCS, Local, Long Distance, etc)
- Reduce Costs to all consumers and Telecom companies
- Allow regulatory control of slamming and other detrimental actions towards consumers
- Foster a cooperative workable baseline for clean and valid data for Directory Information, 911 and LNP (Local Number Portability)

How do we Solve the National OSS Problems

- Develop Real National Standards and Implement:
 - Order Type Rules (New, Change, Move etc.)
 - Usage Rules (Required, Optional, Conditional etc.)
 - Data Characteristics (Valid Values, Attributes etc.)
 - EDI (Transactions, Acknowledgements, etc.)
 - Tariff Rules (State, Switch, Products etc.)
 - Products/Services (USOC, FIDS, Compatibility etc.)
 - Exception Processes (Manual)
 - Editing Rules (Order Reject Codes)
 - Operational Rules (Processes)

How do we Solve the National OSS Problems

- Engage Neutral 3rd Party(s) that certifies regional approval to a national standard
- Any regional approval must be validated against actual OSS to OSS testing
- Testing must be completed with pre approved national standards
- LNP - supports a national telephone number assignment process

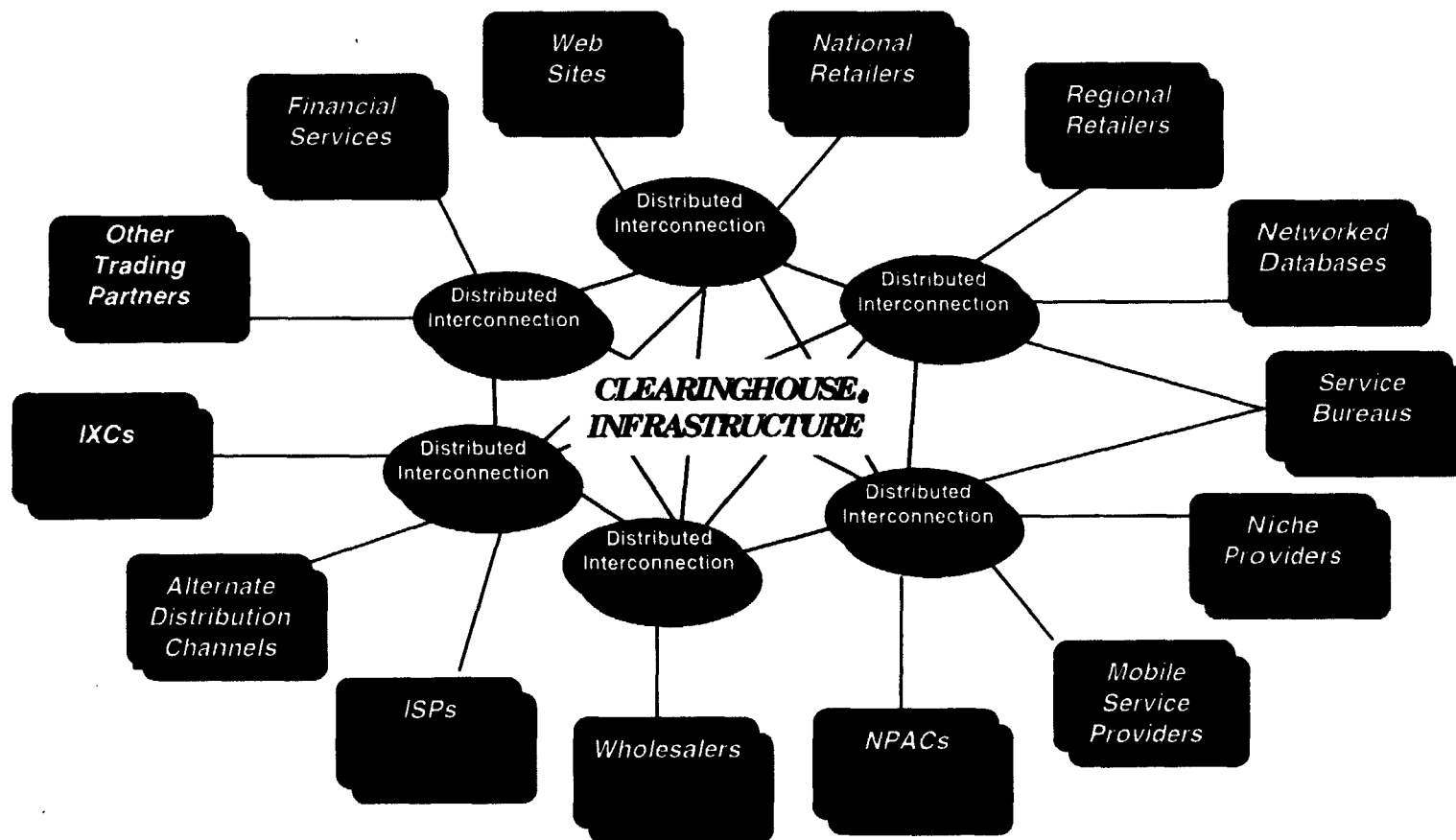
How do we Solve the National OSS Problems

- Clearinghouse must include the following functions (continued):
 - ⇒Pre – Order (including a strict standard for PARSED customer service record / information)
 - ⇒Order – utilizing all Order types (simple and complex) and include all products / services
 - ⇒Total reciprocal arrangements for CLEC to CLEC or CLEC back to ILEC for exchange of any of the above information

How do we Solve the National OSS Problems

- Clearinghouse must include the following functions:
 - ⇒ Network Provisioning (consistent unbundled elements and loops)
 - ⇒ Trouble Administration
 - ⇒ PIC Care Processing to support dialing parity
 - ⇒ 911, Directory Listing and LIDB

The Clearinghouse Concept - *Solving The “Many to Many” Problem with a platform for future service opportunities*



Additional Comments

- An aggressive assumption for development of a clearinghouse supporting these stipulations would require 18- 24 months
- Not all Regional ILECs could meet this window as legacy systems require more complex modifications to obtain national standard
- Tier 2 and 3 ILECs could leverage Regional ILECs to further promote national standards

The Industry has used Clearinghouses to Solve Similar Problems Before

- CMDS (centralized message data system)
- STARS (CMDS II)
- 800 Portability
- LNP (Local Number Portability)
- LIDB (Line Identification Data Base)